



Elements

News for the Berkeley Lab Community

November 2, 2023

[Visit the Elements Site](#)



Why Do Batteries Sometimes Catch Fire and Explode?

A new study led by Nitash Balsara of Berkeley Lab's Materials Sciences Division reveals surprising clues into the causes behind the rare event of a lithium-ion battery catching fire after fast charging. The researchers used an imaging technique called "operando X-ray microtomography" at the Advanced Light Source to probe lithium-graphite battery materials at high resolution.

[Read the article](#)

Open Enrollment

October 26 at 8am - November 17 at 5pm

University of California's Message on 2024 Health Insurance Premiums

Healthcare premiums are increasing nationwide and at the University of California for 2024. Read what UC is doing about rising premium costs in this letter to the UC community.

[Read the letter](#)



Catch the Inaugural National Lab Research



SLAM Thursdays: Superhero Particle

SLAM on Nov. 15

On Nov. 15 at 1:30 p.m., Biosciences Area's Anne Villacastin will represent Berkeley Lab at the inaugural National Lab Research SLAM, competing with contestants from 16 other national labs in a first-of-its-kind event to be streamed live from Capitol Hill.

[Get more details](#)

Accelerators

Ryan Sandberg of Berkeley Lab's Physical Sciences Area uses neural networks to create models of advanced accelerator elements to develop "superhero particle accelerators." Watch Ryan's SLAM talk to find out how that works.

[Watch the video](#)



Rescue Drill at Hill Site on Friday, Nov. 3

Crews from the Alameda County Fire Department will practice low-angle hillside rescues on Friday, Nov. 3, at the water tower near Building 82. The crews will practice rescuing a mock victim who is on a steep hillside and needs to be brought to safety. For a preview, see the images captured by Security and Emergency Management Continuity Coordinator



10th Annual Veterans Appreciation Event, Nov. 13

In observance of Veterans Day, the Berkeley Lab Directorate invites the Lab community to a fireside chat with David Von Damm, the Veterans Employee Resource Group executive sponsor, in conversation with VERG members about the role their military experiences play in their professional and personal lives, and

Ian Servin from the last hillside rescue drill.

[Get the full story](#)

Talk: Driving High-Performance, Sustainable New Construction at Berkeley Lab

Berkeley Lab's Project Management Office will host the Lab's Chief Sustainability Officer, John Elliot, for a Zoom seminar at noon tomorrow, when Elliot will talk about approaches to achieve high-performance, sustainable, new construction at the Lab while also working toward the goal of net-zero greenhouse gas emission. Registration for the seminar is required.

[Register for the seminar](#)

Volunteer for Fairmont Elementary Science Festival

Fairmont Elementary School in El Cerrito is hosting a science festival on Thursday, Nov. 16, between 8 a.m. and 12 p.m. All Lab employees are welcome to volunteer for a two-

the skills that veterans bring to the Lab.

[Find more details](#)

Event: Multicultural Potluck with the Engineering Division & Global ERG

Berkeley Lab's Engineering Division and the Global Employee Resource Group invite the Lab community to a multicultural potluck event on Nov. 8 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Building 15, Room 253. Colleagues are asked to bring no more than an average-sized casserole container of food and an appetite to eat, celebrate, and discuss cultural heritage.

[Sign up here](#)

Schedule Your On-Site Flu Vaccination

Seasonal flu vaccine clinics are underway on select dates at Berkeley Lab's Health Services in Building 26 and Potter Street. Flu vaccine is limited to employees, including retirees, already working onsite. You

hour shift facilitating microscopic exploration activities. Sign up today.

[Learn how to volunteer](#)

must schedule an appointment and complete consent forms in advance on the online portal clinic.lbl.gov.

[Find out how](#)



Sound & Vision



To celebrate the start of Native American Heritage Month, Berkeley Lab's Latin American and Native American Employee Resource Group were joined by Lab colleagues for a banner-raising ceremony at the Lab's main site on Nov. 1. LANA will host events throughout November, including a Zoom panel at noon on Nov. 8 with speakers from the DOE's Office of Nuclear Energy and the Nuclear Energy Tribal Working Group who will talk about effective government relations. [Find out more here.](#)



Good To Know

- [Download a Zoom background for Native American Heritage Month](#)
- [Reminder: The Intellectual Property Office Pitch Competition is tomorrow at 6 p.m.](#)



[Visit the Lab Events Calendar](#)



i Need Elements Help?

- Learn how to [submit an item](#) for inclusion in Elements.
- Questions or comments? Send them to communications@lbl.gov

Coordinate all Lab-related news media interactions with Strategic Communications by contacting media@lbl.gov or the [communications lead](#) in your area. More information is available [here](#) (LDAP login required).



BERKELEY LAB

Bringing Science Solutions to the World

Visit <https://www.lbl.gov/>

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).